

## Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01

COME-00 /087 W

----- 072784

R 241238Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL EDINBURGH

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 752

UNCLAS EDINBURGH 059

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UK

SUBJECT: A HOUSE DIVIDED

1. OUT OF THE TONS OF CHAFF, MOST OF IT CHAFING, PRESENTED AT THE SCOTTISH LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE IN ABERDEEN, THE MOST CASUAL ATTENDEE MIGHT HAVE GLEANED THE FOLLOWING KERNELS:

A) DEVOLUTION. LABOUR CONTINUES TO RESPOND SLUGGISHLY AND RELUCTANTLY TO THE SCOTTISH FACTS OF LIFE. TO THE EXASPERATION OF MANY OF THOSE WHO UNLIKE THE PARTY EXECUTIVE DEPEND ON THE SCOTTISH PEOPLE FOR THEIR BREAD, E.G., M.P.'S, TRADE UNION LEADERS. THREE OF FOUR SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR OBJECTED TO THE EXECUTIVE MINIMALIST APPROACH TO THE SCOTTISH ASSEMBLY. VIRTUALLY EVERYONE I SPOKE TO EXPRESSED ASTONISHMENT THAT THE MAXIMALIST RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING TEETH OF THE ASSEMBLY SPECIFICALLY FUND RAISING POWERS, FAILED, AND THE FIELD ABANDONED TO THE SNP.

B) EC. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH GUESTS AT WILLIE ROSS'S HEAD TABLE, IT SEEMED SURPRISING THAT ALTHOUGH ALL BETS WERE HEDGED ALL OPINED PRIVATELY THAT THE EC VOTE WOULD PASS (SIC).

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C) IT IS OUTSIDE THE COMPETENCE OF THIS POST TO DISCUSS THE

FUTURE OF THE GOVERNMENT, BUT NO ONE COULD FAIL TO BE IMPRESSED  
BY THE FEARS EXPRESSED BY LABOUR MP'S THAT SIGNIFICANT CHANGES  
WERE IN THE OFFING.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hartledg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 JUN 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2004 by hartledg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** A HOUSE DIVIDED  
**TAGS:** PFOR, UK  
**To:** LONDON  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006